

# The Nile River

If you go into Egypt. If you find the main farming source of Egypt. Then if find you something many Egyptians worship and depend on. Then if you find the world's longest river, Then you will have found the Nile river. It's not just a river it's THE river. The river of farming, boating, and not to mention the longest river in the world.

The Nile benefits the Egyptians in so many ways, Also the Nile is so important that there are a ton of facts about it. The Nile is the longest river in the world it is 6,000 kilometers long! The Nile starts in Lake Victoria, then flowing through Uganda, Sudan, Ethiopia, Khartoum, and Cairo. The Nile flows from south to north into the Mediterranean Sea. The Nile is 345 kilometers long and the Nile cataract is 2,000 kilometers long. The Nile has many benefits to give to the people of Egypt. The Nile benefited and gave to the Egyptians mud and silt which were good for their farming. A couple other benefits of the Nile is first that invaders could not cross the Nile and get into Egyptian territory. So the Nile kept the Egyptians safe. Second is that the Nile floods a lot and that is very good for farming. Third is that it gives you another type of transportation which is boats. The boats would make transportation easy for the traders, people carrying goods, and travelers. The Nile also gave the Egyptians good fishing which means good food. The Nile was worshiped by the ancient Egyptians. The Egyptians also threw many offerings into the Nile at special places for Hapi the river god. It is said that the Nile flowed out of Hapi's home and into Egypt. The Egyptians called it the arrival of Hapi. After the arrival of Hapi, the people worshiped Hapi because during the floods of the Nile farming was great. The Egyptians count on the Nile for so much food, water, and many other things. The Nile is one of the Egyptians main sources of life and farming is one of the sources.

Food is one of the main things the Egyptians counted on to live and that started with farming. The Nile is the Egyptians main farming area. Because when the Nile overflowed it made the soil wet and that made good farming. The Nile helped people farm because of the mud that built up over the years. Silt helps the Egyptians farm because it is so good for their plants. Silt is a kind of material made out of minerals. When the grain is harvested the farmers would take out the seed of the grain after they took the seeds out they had grain. Farmers made grains and many vegetables which are: Beans, Lentils, Cucumbers, Leeks, and Onions. Farmers also made fruits which are: dates, figs, and grapes. The farmers also grew flowers and raised domesticated animals. Farmers raised many types of domesticated animals and here are some of them: African cattle, sheep, goats, pigs, donkeys, geese, ducks, and even (in the Hyksos time) horses. Farmers used Hoes and Plows (pulled by animals) to break up the soil. So they then put seeds in the soil. Then they had sheep, goats, and pigs stomp on the seeds so they would go deep

into the soil. A farmer's most important tool is the "mr" which means hoe. It is made of two pieces of wood strung together with plant fiber rope. The farmers used the "mr" to break up the soil for planting and weeding. Farming was very hard work. You would have to plow, build canals, build dikes (and you would have to repair it when it broke), harvest time was also very hard. Sometimes in the 12th century when the Nile did not have enough water life was hard. The river's water was so low no animals could have survived there which means no food. Also farming would have been terrible because there would be so little water. Although farmers lived on their farming land sometimes they did not own the land. They could have paid a person for their land to farm and live on. People have been farming for tons of years. They farmed back many centuries ago and people still do. How do you think people get all the food from grocery stores? The food would have come from a farm first. Farming was a way of life and it always has been. If there were no floods along the Nile then farming would have never been able to happen so flooding is a big importance in farming.

Now people do not like floods all they think of them is they just make the roads and rivers a mess, but back in ancient Egypt people loved floods because whenever the Nile river flooded farming was great. In the starting of 5,200 farmers in ancient Egypt learned how to control the flood waters to water the banks and use it for farming. To control the flood water and keep a supply of it the farmers made dikes so the water could soak into the soil to help the crops stay alive. Another thing farmers used to control the flood waters other than dikes is irrigation systems. In the fall when the Nile started to flood farming season started. There are three flooding seasons which are:

Akhet: the inundation season from June-September

Peret: The growing season from October-February

Shemu: The harvesting season from March-May

April was the month where the Nile sank to its lowest point. The Nile had many floods and many of them were predictable. Around two weeks before the Nile becomes as tall as it can be, around the end of September the Nile comes back to its normal height. The Nile usually floods through June-September. Floods were very good for the Egyptians and through the years they learned how to control the floods with dikes and irrigation. If flooding was good through the years that means farming was good and that is what the Egyptians depended on.

The Nile gave the Egyptians so much including good farming, floods that helped farming, and so many benefits. The Nile was and still is such a great and amazing river. That gives to the Egyptians all they could ever need. Even though the Nile river is thousands of years old it is still flowing through Egypt today. The Egyptians counted on the Nile for so many things like food, water, good farming, and the Nile gave them all of those things. All in all the Nile was a great river.